

4 Fall from elevation--Inspection #1377946 Alex Ulloa

A **36 year old male** employee was fatally injured when he **fell 16'5"** from the stair landing between the 2nd and 3rd floors of an apartment complex under construction.

The painting crew was engaged in the painting of an apartment complex which was under construction. At the time of the incident two employees were performing work from a landing on the staircase between the 2nd and 3rd floors of building number 9, the victim and another employee were applying wood filler to holes in the wood siding on the building.

It was determined that at the time of the incident, the victim was leaning out away from the landing to fill nail holes in the wood siding with wood filler putty. The employee who was working with him stated that he lost his balance while reaching out to fill a nail hole and fell off of the landing. There was no guardrail system in place when the victim fell.

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

Citation 1 Item 1

Type of Violation: Serious

\$4000

29 CFR 1926.501(b)(1): Each employee on a walking/working surface with an unprotected side or edge which was 6 feet (1.8 m) or more above a lower level was not protected from falling by the use of guardrail systems, safety net systems, or personal fall arrest systems.

In that two employees were working at a height of 16'5" without being protected from falls. The employees were working on the North side of building number 9, on the stairway landing between the 2nd and 3rd floors.

Citation 1 Item 2

Type of Violation: Serious

\$1200

29 CFR 1926.503(a)(1): The employer did not provide a training program for each employee potentially exposed to fall hazards to enable each employee to recognize the hazards of falling and the procedures to be followed in order to minimize these hazards:

In that the employer had no such training program in place for employees exposed to fall hazards.

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The red arrow indicates the approximate location of the employee before falling. The blue arrow indicates the **guard rail system which was put in place after the incident.**

